

# Microbiological Reviews

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# MICROBIOLOGICAL REVIEWS

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### Scope

*Microbiological Reviews* accepts reviews and monographs dealing with all aspects of microbiology and other fields of concern to microbiologists, such as immunology. Authoritative and critical reviews of the current state of knowledge are preferred, although historical analyses will be accepted if the importance of the subject justifies this approach. *Unevaluated compilations of the literature and annotated bibliographies do not fall within the scope of Microbiological Reviews*. Manuscripts of lectures delivered at symposia and round tables are likewise unacceptable; however, their authors are encouraged to discuss with the Editor the possibility of using such material as the basis for preparation of a review, when publication in this form seems appropriate. Because a distinctive goal of the journal is to appeal to the interests of the diverse group of subscribers, authors are asked to address themselves to both specialists and generalists; this demands conscious concern for this goal in writing.

Monographs should embody the results of unusually extensive and well-rounded original investigations, the usefulness of which would be diminished by publication in the form of a series of separate papers. Past experience suggests that the monograph is particularly appropriate for the presentation of a definitive study on the biology of a microbial group.

Members of the Editorial Board will welcome any suggestions of topics and authors, either from prospective authors or from others. Prospective authors are advised to discuss with the Editor the suitability of their proposed contribution. The preparation of an annotated topical outline is desirable, since it often elicits constructive suggestions from editorial consultants. In addition, a list of key references showing the author's contributions to the field as well as other investigators' findings and a one- or two-paragraph statement detailing the aim, scope, and relevance of the review should be included with the outline.

### How to Submit Manuscripts

Submit two complete copies of each manuscript, including figures and tables, either in the original typescript or as clear, clean photocopies. All text should be double- or triple-spaced, including quotations, tables, figure legends, and references, and the pages must be numbered sequentially.

Original drawings should not be submitted;

glossy prints are required. When appropriate, magnification should be indicated by a suitable scale on the photograph. Each figure should be numbered and should include the name of the author, either in the margin or on the back (marked lightly with a soft pencil). Papers should seldom exceed 60 manuscript text pages; any excess will require discussion with the Editor. A review, whether invited or not, cannot be finally accepted until the finished product has been examined and found to be satisfactory.

### Editorial Style

The editorial style of *Microbiological Reviews* conforms to the *Council of Biology Editors Style Manual* (4th ed., American Institute of Biological Sciences, 1978) and Robert A. Day's *How to Write and Publish a Scientific Paper* (ISI Press, 1979), as interpreted and modified by the Editorial Board and the ASM Publications Office. It is desirable to include a table of contents showing the major headings and subheadings of the text. Consult a recent issue of *Microbiological Reviews* for format and style. It is preferable to summarize supporting evidence whenever possible. When original data are presented, it is essential that the methods be fully described or that reference be made to previously published methods.

**Literature Cited.** References should be listed alphabetically according to the last name of the first author, numbered serially, and cited by number in the text. Carefully examine a current issue for style and format. Each reference cited should be checked with the original publication; titles and both first and last pages should be included. References to unpublished data, abstracts, theses, and personal communications should be kept to a minimum; if unavoidable, these citations should be made *in the text only*, not in the list of references. Names of journals are abbreviated according to the *Bibliographic Guide for Editors & Authors* (American Chemical Society, 1974) or *Serial Sources for the BIOSIS Data Base* (BioSciences Information Service, 1981).

**Abbreviations and symbols.** All abbreviations used (except those for standard units of measurement) should be defined parenthetically at first use in the text. Biochemical nomenclature, including abbreviations and symbols, should follow the recommendations given in *International Union of Biochemistry Biochemical Nomenclature and Related Documents* (re-

## INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

printed for The Biochemical Society, London, England, 1978) and the Instructions to Authors of the *Journal of Biological Chemistry* and *Archives of Biochemistry and Biophysics* (first issue of each year), which are based upon these recommendations.

For measurements, use the International System of Units, employing the prefixes m,  $\mu$ , n, and p (for  $10^{-3}$ ,  $10^{-6}$ ,  $10^{-9}$ , and  $10^{-12}$ , respectively), where applicable, and avoid such compound prefixes as m $\mu$  and  $\mu\mu$ .

**Nomenclature.** In general, the nomenclature of bacteria should follow that presented in *Bergey's Manual of Determinative Bacteriology* (8th ed., The Williams & Wilkins Co., 1974). Only those names which were included in the "Approved Lists of Bacterial Names" (Int. J. Syst. Bacteriol. 30:225-420, 1980) and those which have been validly published in the *International Journal of Systematic Bacteriology* since 1 January 1980 have standing in nomenclature. If there is reason to use a name that does not have standing in nomenclature, the name should be enclosed in quotation marks and an appropriate statement concerning the nomenclatural status of the name should be made in the text (for an example, see Int. J. Syst. Bacteriol. 30:547-556, 1980).

For enzymes, use the recommended (trivial) name assigned by the Nomenclature Committee of the International Union of Biochemistry as described in *Enzyme Nomenclature 1978* (Academic Press, Inc., 1979).

Genetics symbols introduced by the reviewer

should essentially follow the recommendations of Demerec et al. (*Genetics* 54:1-74, 1966) and those given in the Instructions to Authors of the *Journal of Bacteriology* (January issue).

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